



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/720,875	11/26/2003	Gabriel Suciu	EH-10756(02-683)	1260
34704	7590	03/11/2005	EXAMINER	
BACHMAN & LAPOINTE, P.C. 900 CHAPEL STREET SUITE 1201 NEW HAVEN, CT 06510			KERSHTEYN, IGOR	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3745	

DATE MAILED: 03/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

9

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/720,875	SUCIU ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Igor Kershteyn	3745	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 11, in lines 1-2, recites "attaching a first array of stator vanes to said one-piece drum rotor" which is indefinite because term "stator vanes" refers to a non-rotating structure of a turbine engine that can not be attached to a rotating structure such as the drum rotor of the turbine engine.

Claims 12 and 13 are indefinite by virtue of their dependency on claim 11.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3, 6-10, and 14-7, and 11-13, as far as they are definite, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Koff (3,249,293).

Art Unit: 3745

In figures 1-5, Koff teaches a turbine structure for use in a gas turbine engine, comprising: a one piece drum rotor 22; and a plurality of turbine blades 27 attached to said one-piece drum rotor 22.

Note. Claim 2 is a product-by-process claim and the apparatus or structure claimed is identical to that described in the reference presented by the examiner and thus anticipated by the reference because patentability of a product does not depend on its method of production. See MPEP 2113.

Claims 1-4, 6-10, 14-17, and 11-13, as far as they are definite, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ledwith (4,483,054).

In figures 1-4, Ledwith teaches a turbine structure for use in a gas turbine engine, comprising: a one piece drum rotor 50; and a plurality of turbine blades 74a-d attached to said one-piece drum rotor 50.

Claims 1-5, 7, 8, 10, 14-17, and 11-13, as far as they are definite, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ciokajlo (5,156,525).

In figures 1-6, Ciokajlo teaches a turbine structure for use in a gas turbine engine 10, comprising: a one piece drum rotor 60; and a plurality of turbine blades 76,78,80 attached to said one-piece drum rotor 60 (Regarding claim 2, see Note above).

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Whitehead (2,461,402).

Art Unit: 3745

In figures 1-4, Whitehead teaches a turbine structure for use in a gas turbine engine, comprising: a one piece drum rotor (not numbered); and a plurality of turbine blades 5 attached to said one-piece drum rotor.

Prior Art

Prior art made of record but not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure and consist of two patents.

Ulrich (4,743,165) is cited to show a turbine structure for use in a gas turbine engine, comprising: a one piece drum rotor but fails to teach a plurality of turbine blades attached to said one-piece drum rotor.

Naudet (4,844,694) is cited to show a turbine structure for use in a gas turbine engine, comprising: a one piece drum rotor and a plurality of turbine blades attached to said one-piece drum rotor.

Contact information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Kershteyn whose telephone number is **(571)272-4817**. The examiner can be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Look, can be reached on **(571)272-4820**. The fax number is (703) 872-9306.

Art Unit: 3745

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308 0861.

IK
February 23, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Igor Kershteyn', written in a cursive style.

Igor Kershteyn
Patent examiner.
Art Unit 3745